



**ACTION FOR  
A GLOBAL CLIMATE  
COMMUNITY**

# **Action for a Global Climate Community**

## **Annual Report 2008-2009**

**AGCC is...**

***In London***

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## Summary

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Climate change is now widely recognized as the most critical problem facing humanity. Action for a Global Climate Community aims to accelerate progress on tackling climate change and promoting sustainable development through enhanced cooperation between developed and developing countries, by means of dialogue, education and research. Over the past few years we have focused our limited resources on the potential for enhanced cooperation between the European Union, India and African countries, through high-level seminars, research and dialogue between scientists, policy-makers and civil society organisations.

### Key activities & publications

**Publications:** 28 publications in total: 12 research papers for the Potsdam Seminar; 10 research papers for the Delhi seminar; 1 report of the High-Level India-EU Dialogue; 2 pamphlets: “A Community of the Willing” and “Why we need a Copenhagen Plus”; 3 final reports of the meetings in Potsdam, Delhi and London

**Activities:** 3 seminars within the High-Level India-EU Dialogue; 1 round-table on solar energy; 1 side event in COP14

Please visit AGCC website at [www.climatecommunity.org](http://www.climatecommunity.org) for full details

The past two years have seen substantial growth in all our areas of activity in Europe, India and Africa. The central focus of activity was the launch of the so-called High-Level India-EU Dialogue, which was initiated at a seminar organised with the support of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), in Potsdam in May 2008 and which brought together leaders from Europe and India to discuss AGCC’s proposals. This seminar was the culmination of four years’ discussions with key Indian and European politicians, administrators, scientists, business people and civil society organisations,

and set the agenda for two further seminars, Delhi in February 2009 and London in July 2009. A report setting out the Dialogue’s recommendations for enhanced cooperation between the European Union and India was drafted following the Delhi Seminar’s conclusions and was agreed at a further meeting in London in July 2009. At the time of writing, AGCC is hoping that its main conclusions will be discussed at the forthcoming EU-India Summit on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009.

At the same time, AGCC’s work has progressed in both East and West Africa at a series of meetings and conferences designed to facilitate a more coordinated approach to the Kyoto process among African governments and civil society organisations.

AGCC’s work in Europe, India and Africa consists primarily of finding key individuals within the decision making process able to influence that process and organising meetings that can lead to clear and defined objectives. AGCC’s strength lies in its network, its focused objectives and its advocacy and facilitation skills.

AGCC is based in London and operates with a small Management Board, a full time Chief Executive, two Project Officers - one full time and one part time – and a part time Financial Manager and Company Secretary. There are also associate consultants based in India and Africa. This light structure enables AGCC to work from small offices with tight and personal communication between Board members and staff.

Whenever possible, AGCC works closely with other organisations in the same or similar fields including The Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Environment 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation (E3G), new economics foundation (nef), The European Environment Agency (EEA), The Heinrich Böll Foundation, GTZ, Climate Network Africa (CNA), Association Réalités et Relations Internationales (France), Caisse des Dépôts (France), The European Commission and other relevant organisations and individuals.

## Chairman's Report

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Photo: IRIN

Over the past two years, AGCC has concentrated primarily on organising and servicing the High-Level India-EU Dialogue. The three conferences that have taken place - in Potsdam, Delhi and London - have shown the enormous potential for India-EU enhanced cooperation in tackling the ever growing danger of climate destabilisation within the context of maintaining India's drive towards economic development. Without seeking to influence the complex negotiations taking place within the

UNFCCC that aim to find a global agreement in Copenhagen at the end of 2009, the High-Level Dialogue has shown how vital, dynamic and creative a track two approach can be; without the need to compromise policy objectives, new and imaginative ideas have emerged that will not only bring mutual benefits to both India and the EU but can show leadership in forging new partnerships between developed and developing countries.

AGCC's staff has proved adept at the facilitation of discussions. A key component of our work is to identify leaders and opinion formers throughout the world and to bring them together in an atmosphere of trust and creativity that can enable new ideas to flourish. Although primarily concentrating on India and the EU, important ground work has also taken place in Africa, which we hope will lead to greater understanding between Africa, the EU and India on climate issues. Unless the needs of the developing world are firmly understood and tackled in tandem with the aspirations of richer nations, hopes for a global solution to climate destabilisation may be undermined by mistrust and mutual suspicion.

We firmly believe that the High-Level India-EU Dialogue should be continued and expanded both in its original format and through the use of video conferencing and smaller gatherings that would enable more people from many areas of political, administrative, parliamentary, business and civil society to discuss vital areas of concern.

I hope that the coming years will see the expansion of our activities.

David Stephen  
Chairman

## Chief Executive Officer's Report

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Much has been achieved with a small, highly professional and dedicated staff able both to organise major events and respond quickly to changing circumstances and policies. We have also been exceptionally fortunate in the support we have received from Associates in both Europe and India. A number of key people and organisations have created opportunities for us to make our case at the highest level of government. Most specifically, we should like to offer our very real thanks to Mr Nitin Desai and Sir Crispin Tickell, who have Chaired the High Level Dialogues and whose guidance, inspiration and support have been invaluable, Professor John Schellnhuber, Dr Rajendra Pachauri, The Honourable Suresh Prabhu, Ambassador Chandrashekar Dasgupta, Prof Jyoti Parikh, Dr Kirit Parikh and Mark Runacres, whose encouragement from the very beginning gave AGCC the credibility and contacts to turn aspiration into action.

We have also been extremely fortunate in the many senior officials in India and in the EU, who have given us the opportunity to discuss and refine our proposals and, who have offered crucial advice as to the political realities and pitfalls that we might experience in pursuing our ideas. And our thanks is given to the trusts and foundations whose financial support has carried AGCC forward over the past six years, most especially The James Madison Trust, The Heinrich Böll Stiftung, GTZ, DFID, The Oak Foundation, The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and DECC.

We believe that the original research we have commissioned and the reports of the Dialogue offer practical opportunities for enhanced cooperation between India and the EU on key flagship projects that can address the provision of clean and renewable energies as well as tackling other areas of both mitigation and adaptation. Most crucially, they outline ways in which joint programmes can be delivered through joint institutional mechanisms.

Our hope in the coming years is to see these ideas brought to fruition which in turn will suggest new paths for enhanced cooperation between two of the world's great democracies to expand and flourish.

Peter Luff  
CEO

## Activities

### India

AGCC's core proposition is the creation of a global climate community led by countries from both the global north and south, developed and developing, who see the need to work together, further and faster than the Kyoto process, to tackle the climate challenge equitably while maintaining the momentum of sustainable development beyond the carbon age.

The first four years of AGCC's work indicated that the prime focus for activity in 2008 should be India, where the idea had met with a sympathetic reception by high-level members of the administration, business and civil society. Over that time, seminars and round table discussions had been arranged at the Confederation of Indian Industry, with the Indian scientific community, with members of Lok Sabha and at the annual Delhi Sustainable Development Summit.

#### The Potsdam seminar and the kick-off of the High-Level India-EU Dialogue

##### From 2008...

January 2008	Exploratory meetings in Berlin
February 2008	Exploratory meetings in India
April 2008	Exploratory meetings in Germany and Brussels
May 2008	Exploratory meetings in Brussels
<b>27-29 May 2008</b>	<b>Potsdam seminar</b>
June 2008	Discussions in Brussels
July 2008	Meetings in Brussels
August 2008	Exploratory meetings and discussions in India
September 2008	Exploratory meetings in Paris and Brussels
October 2008	Discussions in India
<b>24 October 2008</b>	<b>Round-Table on solar energy</b>
November 2008	Meetings in Brussels
<b>8 December 2008</b>	<b>Side event for the COP14</b>

With the support of The Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and, most particularly, Professor John Schellnhuber, formerly Chief Scientific Advisor to the German Chancellor during Germany's Presidency of the G8 and European Union and Advisor to the Commission of the European Union, and Dr Rajendra Pachauri, Nobel Prize winning director of TERI, it was decided that the most important next step would be a seminar to which Indian and European leaders would be able to hold a private discussion on issues raised by AGCC. Fortunately, the timing of the event proved convenient for both President Barroso and his Climate Advisory Committee, who agreed to participate, and for members of

Premier Manmohan Singh's Advisory Council on Climate Change.

One of the prime purposes of the seminar, held on 27-29 May 2008, was to create an atmosphere of confidence and trust that would enable a free flowing discussion, under Chatham House rules, allowing participants to understand better the key objectives and problems outside the framework imposed by official negotiations. In this regard, the seminar

proved extremely effective and enabled a wider and deeper understanding of many of the underlying factors governing the public positions of both the EU and India.

Participants at the seminar also urged that the initiative should be continued and the joint Chairmen – Mr Nitin Desai and Sir Crispin Tickell – issued the following joint concluding statement:

*“In his address to participants to the High Level India-Europe Seminar in Potsdam May 2008, President Barroso said that this event brought together diverse views seeking to converge on a common position. He referred to the compelling evidence of dangerous climate change, citizens’ concerns and the need for a global response to bring about steep and rapid reductions in greenhouse gases: India and Europe had much in common which provided a basis for a constructive dialogue.*

*Our deliberations opened with reminders of the evidence of climate destabilisation as a result of accumulating carbon and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and of the consequences, particularly for the poorest.*

*In response to these challenges, we recognise that the prosperity enjoyed by the industrialised countries, including many within the European Union, was achieved historically by the use of energy derived from fossil fuels, and that it is just that they should bear an appropriate share of the cost of enabling poorer countries to harness energy from clean and renewable sources. We need to identify practical steps that will enable India and Europe to exercise the leadership required to ensure that long term development can be advanced without damage to the planet.*

*We believe that India and the EU are ideal partners for initiating this promising co-operation on the basis of fairness and equality. As a solidly-based democracy, based on the rule of law, India offers a range of skills and capacities which could be developed in partnerships with European enterprises, not only in industry but also in the green-related service economy. For its part, the EU has taken the lead in negotiating the Kyoto Protocol and moving towards the post carbon economy.*

*We believe that recognition of convergence towards equal per capita emissions is central to the process of achieving common agreement;*

*We note that clear principles are needed to achieve a democratic mandate and win political support for the scale of the transformation required.*

*We note that the EU and India are both challenged by climate destabilisation and the impact of possible tipping points, such rapid sea-level rise, sustained drought or black carbon reducing the albedo effect on the cryosphere, especially the Arctic and Himalayan glaciers with potentially dangerous results;*

*We therefore resolve to accelerate progress on ambitious and effective climate mitigation and adaptation through interim flexible solutions and quick wins through Indian – European cooperation. Such new initiatives will support the Bali road map process within the UNFCCC framework and bring new impetus to tackle climate change while maintaining momentum towards sustainable economic development.*

*We agreed that:*

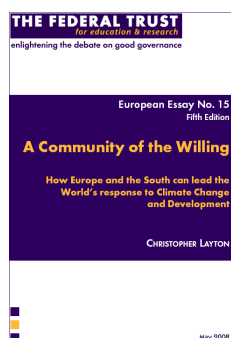
1. *The substance of these discussions should be communicated to the European Institutions and the Foreign Ministers of the EU and India as a contribution to the EU-India Summit due to take place later this year.*
2. *An India-Europe Working Group should be set up to explore a joint and equitable approach to the challenges of climate change and development.*
3. *A further High Level Seminar should be organised in Delhi within eight months to consider proposals, based upon substantive research by the Working Group, into the following areas:*
  - a. *Processes and institutional arrangements*
    - *alternative time paths for equal per capita emissions by 2050, on the basis of equal per capita entitlements to the global atmosphere;*
    - *models to show how such a partnership might work, in both the short and long term, within the principle of equity;*
    - *the political and economic institutions required to implement such proposals,*
    - *how an India-Europe partnership might in due course be enlarged to embrace other partners;*
    - *possible sets of minimum measures for effective action on climate change relevant and appropriate for the EU and India;*

- b. *Research and development*
- *the creation of a network of European and Indian research institutes on climate-related issues such as sustainable biomass, energy, black carbon, solar thermal, desalination, monsoon dynamics, health, economic impacts, and other issues;*
- c. *Finance and technology*
- *options for financing adaptation and sustainable development, including:*
  - *how an India-Europe partnership might promote sustainable investments in ecosystems and the services they provide, including further development of resource accounting and valuation techniques;*
  - *the scope for local and sectoral co-operation including technology transfer, eco-innovation and intellectual property rights issues;*
  - *information sharing to promote technologies which offer early success, including sustainable biomass, rural energy development, solar thermal and use of information technology;*
  - *ways of encouraging joint private sector partnerships to support adaptation and mitigation;*
- d. *Emissions trading*
- *the possibilities of linking India with the EU ETS and associated technical issues;*
  - *a road map to a global emissions trading system*
- We agreed that:*
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  - *the political and economic institutions required to implement such proposals,*
  - *how an India-Europe partnership might in due course be enlarged to embrace other partners;*
  - *possible sets of minimum measures for effective action on climate change relevant and appropriate for the EU and India;*
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  - *information sharing to promote technologies which offer early success, including sustainable biomass, rural energy development, solar thermal and use of information technology;*
  - *ways of encouraging joint private sector partnerships to support adaptation and mitigation;*
- h. *Emissions trading*
- *the possibilities of linking India with the EU ETS and associated technical issues;*
  - *a road map to a global emissions trading system”*

This seminar marked the first step of the High-Level India-EU Dialogue – or Track 2 process – initiated by AGCC.

12 research papers were commissioned as background information for the Potsdam seminar. These were written by the new economics foundation, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), Ecoequity, the Stockholm Environment Institute and four AGCC members (Chris Layton, John Pinder, Robert Whitfield and Estelle Rouhaud). They were distributed to participants at the beginning of May 2008 in order to provide contextual support for the

seminar. Christopher Layton’s introductory pamphlet to the work of AGCC – *A Community of the Willing, how Europe and the South can lead the World’s response to Climate Change and Development* (now in its fifth edition) – was also circulated and a final report of the Seminar was written by rapporteurs - Nick Mabey, Tom Spencer, Titus Alexander, David Stephen and Robert Whitfield. The final report was sent to all the European embassies in the UK for forwarding to their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs. AGCC’s website was also updated in order to give access to all the materials linked to the Potsdam seminar to participants and general public. A side event, at which Titus Alexander and Tom Spencer presented the seminar and the challenges ahead, was organised during the COP 14 in Poznan in collaboration with Civic Exchange and the National Institute for Environment Studies and a pamphlet on “Why we need a Copenhagen Plus” was written by Titus Alexander for the occasion.



### The Delhi seminar and the preparation of the Dialogue report

<b>... to 2009</b>	
January 2009	Discussions in Sweden
<b>3-4 February 2009</b>	<b>Delhi seminar</b>
March 2009	Discussions and meetings in Brussels and Sweden
10 March 2009	CEO speech on “Global warming: why we need a North-South Climate Community?”
May 2009	Discussions in Stockholm
<b>7-8 July 2009</b>	<b>London meeting</b>
August 2009	Discussions in India
September 2009	Meetings in Brussels, Berlin and Paris

Following the conclusions of the Potsdam seminar, a further meeting was held in Delhi at the India Habitat Centre on 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> February 2009, gathering most participants to the Potsdam seminar as well as other key people attending the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organised by The Energy and Resources Institute immediately after AGCC’s seminar. The aim was to evaluate the progress of the Dialogue and to report the work established through the working groups created in the aftermath of the Potsdam seminar.

10 new research papers on specific areas of potential enhanced cooperation were prepared by three AGCC members (Robert Whitfield, Christopher Layton and Estelle Rouhaud), The Mission Climat of Caisse des Dépôts (Paris), Ajit K. Gupta (former adviser, Indian Ministry of New and Renewable Energy) and GTZ (Germany). As for the Potsdam seminar, the Delhi seminar outcomes were circulated in the European and Indian spheres through its final report and the AGCC website.

The conclusions of the Delhi seminar were the following:

*“We are brought together by our shared concern over the dangers of climate destabilisation and the many opportunities for enhanced cooperation between India and Europe.*

*The EU and India are Strategic Partners with regular Summits and a wide ranging Joint Action*

*Plan agreed in 2005. The EU and India recognize progress towards a low carbon economy must go hand in hand with improving conditions for the poorest. To this end, in 2008 the EU and India established a joint work programme on energy, clean development and climate change.*

We are encouraged by progress in the many strands of cooperation between India and the EU since our first meeting in Potsdam in May 2008 and by the high quality of contributions and outcomes from these two days in Delhi.

We heard about many initiatives in India and the EU to improve living standards and curb carbon emissions. We also learnt that reductions in Black Carbon and the use of biochar sequestration can make rapid contributions to global cooling, as well as major improvements to health and agriculture respectively.

We heard forceful evidence, however, that the pace of climate mitigation and adaptation, as well as poverty reduction and sustainable development, on both our continents, is still far short of what is needed. New findings in science and changes in the global economy and the political situation mean that fresh thinking is needed.

We also heard examples of how the institutional links between the EU, member states and India could be much more effective.

We therefore welcome the invitation by the EU Commission to bring forward suggestions on institutional links that might lead to long term enhanced cooperation and on practical projects for consideration by the EU-India Summit later this year.

We conclude these two days with a strong sense of common purpose in a shared journey towards a low carbon, environmentally sustainable and equitable world.

In the light of our deliberations, it was agreed that

1. We will prepare a report on high-level institutional mechanisms for more effective cooperation on climate and sustainable development, in consultation with the Governments of India and Europe, the European Commission, parliamentarians, bilateral organisations and civil society in time for consideration at the next EU-India Summit in Delhi in the autumn of 2009.
2. We call on the meetings of the G20 in April and G8 in June to take account of climate change as the greatest threat to humanity in their deliberations on the economy, and to channel investment towards measures for climate mitigation, adaptation and restoration in a 'Global Green New Deal'.
3. We urge the governments of Europe and India to:
  - a) Expedite the flagship joint EU-India Solar Programme in line with India's National Climate Change Action Plan and the EU package on climate and energy. We can learn from each other and global experience jointly to:
    - develop Concentrated Solar Power (CSP) and storage capacity;
    - research and develop HVDC transmission grids and smart grids;
    - promote large scale application of decentralised photovoltaic solar power to Indian villages;
    - develop financial mechanisms which provide grid parity for solar and other renewable energies.
  - b) Recognise Black Carbon as a significant climate driver and develop a joint programme to:
    - build international support for mitigation of the threat of Black Carbon to the glaciers of the Hindu Kush-Himalaya-Tibet area;
    - support a major clean cook stove initiative, including Project Surya and the application of pyrolysis and biochar.
  - c) Develop the potential of biochar as a method of carbon bio-sequestration and soil improvement.
4. The following areas of potential future collaboration were noted:
  - a) strategic dialogue on security issues raised by climate destabilisation;
  - b) studies of the impact of climate change at sub-national levels, including potential costs of adaptation, to inform local opinion and action;
  - c) the potential of low carbon zones as a mechanism for accelerating practical action on the ground;
  - d) arrangements to facilitate linkages of carbon markets;
  - e) enhanced cooperation on climate and clean development through trilateral cooperation between the EU, India and other countries;
  - f) practical steps to promote, facilitate and finance technology transfer of environmentally sound technology and know-how, including community-based technical diffusion programmes;
  - g) a joint initiative for innovation and assessment of energy efficiency.

We thank the participants and partners in this High Level Dialogue, initiated in Potsdam in May 2008, and all those who contributed generously to this meeting in Delhi: TERI, PIK, GTZ, the Heinrich Böll Foundation, the European Environmental Agency, the European Commission, the British Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Khemka Foundation and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.”

The Delhi seminar conclusions include the preparation of a report presenting the key recommendations of the Dialogue to enhance cooperation between India and the European Union in terms of climate and clean development. AGCC had indeed received before the seminar in Delhi a letter from EC President Barroso's office asking to prepare such a report.

### **The London meeting and the report of the High-Level India-EU Dialogue**

The team, with invaluable collaboration of some participants to the Dialogue, prepared this report, which was presented at the third meeting of the kind in London in July 2009.

After various discussions and amendments, the following is the executive summary of the report:

*"India and Europe need to work together towards restructuring global political and economic structures, within the context of tackling climate destabilisation. Both India and the member states of the European Union recognise the vital importance of the rule of law in a world that is threatened by lawlessness, and which will grow steadily more dangerous with climate destabilisation. Both India and the European Union are facing major concerns over environmental security. Both have evolved political systems that are based upon democratic parliamentary accountability and cultural and religious pluralism. Both accept ethical principles of equity and differentiated responsibilities in tackling climate change. Both need to tailor their policies to the needs and aspirations of their electorates and, above all, both need to show that their policies are able to create jobs and maintain long term sustainable economic development.*

*While the High-Level India-EU Dialogue does not concern itself with the detailed negotiations taking place under the process leading to Copenhagen, cooperation in the key field of sustainable development, in particular in the context of climate destabilisation, is a natural fit for the India-EU partnership.*

*The time for enhanced cooperation is now. At a time when economic stimulus to the global economy is required, there is an opportunity to focus much of the stimulus on green, climate friendly action. The private sector has a key role to play, operating within a framework set by Government. Together, the EU and India need to identify how and when European and Indian per capita emissions might converge. But to make progress, tangible collaborative projects are required.*

#### *Flagship Projects*

*Central to the High-Level India-EU Dialogue has been an analysis of the potential for major collaborative flagship projects that could demonstrate practically the importance of enhanced India-EU cooperation in the establishment of a low-carbon economy. Participants shared the view that working together on major projects would not only show what could be achieved but would also build a greater trust and understanding between India and the EU.*

*This report lists four areas for potential Joint India-EU flagship programmes:*

- 1. solar energy (CSP and photovoltaic);*
- 2. research into, and implementation of, adaptation programmes;*
- 3. tackling the effects of black carbon;*
- 4. research into the potential for biochar, and implementation of subsequent programmes.*

*In all of these areas, a joint India-EU approach could play a major role not only in reducing the potential impact of carbon emissions on climate destabilisation but also in essential research, development and training that could allow both partners a global competitive advantage and push them to the forefront of new and innovative technology.*

*It is clear that the issues of technology transfer and intellectual property rights (IPR) must be resolved urgently and this will require a joint agreement that neither prevents risk taking and investment nor creates a price barrier that prevents innovative solutions from being widely used in poor communities.*

*A further example of potential collaboration is in the area of leveraging international financial flows for*

climate change. The establishment of a significant private and public sector Euro 50-100 billion 'Fund-of-Funds' partnerships could be a way forward.

The potential for an imaginative programme of flagship projects lies at the heart of the India-EU Dialogue recommendations. It is critical that the 'ownership' of Flagship Projects should be assumed at a political level by both partners and that a coordinating mechanism should have clear lines of reporting to both parties on a regular basis and annually to the India-EU Summit.

#### The Institutional Partnership

Without diminishing or undermining the important work undertaken by the existing EU-India mechanisms, this report suggests that the process of enhancing India-EU cooperation requires that these mechanisms be strengthened.

There are three key reasons for advocating such a strengthening:

1. the need to coordinate and rationalise the work of existing joint institutional mechanisms (listed in Appendix II) and to set a strategic road map for long term enhanced cooperation;
2. the need to bring together all the technical, financial and political factors required to drive forward Joint Flagship Projects referred to in the joint EU-India Summit Communiqué of 2007;
3. the need to create a strategic framework that will encourage and enable private investment to develop new technologies.

Strengthening, coordinating and enhancing India-EU partnership could unleash new energies and tap into the skills, talents and entrepreneurial potential of people in India and the EU member states and be in the vanguard of the so-called 'Third Industrial Revolution'.

Many of the existing EU-India bodies feed their reports and recommendations to the annual India-EU summit meetings that take place alternately in India and the Member State that holds the EU Presidency. The last such meeting was held in Marseille under the French Presidency of the EU in September 2008 and concluded with a strong statement of commitment to joint action to climate change and energy security. The joint communiqué affirmed that: "the EU-India Initiative on Clean Development and Climate Change, the EU-India Energy Panel and the EU-India Science and

Technology Steering Committee are the relevant fora under which bilateral cooperation can be advanced on these important global issues."

One of these mechanisms, for example the EU-India Energy Panel or the Science and Technology Steering Committee, should be given the clear lead and political authority, flowing from the Summits, to take forward work in the area of climate de-stabilisation. It could then play a vital role in coordinating the work of the many separate technical committees and working groups, thereby providing a strategic direction and maximising their effectiveness.

Reports on progress would be submitted to the annual India-EU summit meetings but there would also be the need for political engagement from both sides on a continuing and continuous basis between summits. There will be a need to

- draw together the reports of the various working groups into the coordinated body of agreed recommendations;
- propose clear targets for enhanced cooperation on flagship projects, joint research and modelling and adaptation to the annual India-EU Summit meeting;
- oversee the execution of decisions taken by the annual India-EU summits;
- evaluate key projects for recommendations to the India-EU summit;
- encourage dialogue with civil society organisations able to assist in the implementation of strategic goals;
- prepare the agenda and the necessary papers for the annual India-EU summit meetings working closely with all the directorates general of the European Commission, Indian ministries and relevant EU member states' administrations.

The Panel or Committee could be strengthened with a small permanent secretariat of civil servants from India and the EU, based in Delhi and overseen by an Action Group or Task Force of six senior people – representing the Commission, the Presidency (on behalf of the Council of Ministers) and Parliament from EU, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Prime Minister's Climate Panel and Lok Sabha from India – to give the strategic partnership political weight between Summits, to prepare the Summit."

This report was prepared in order to offer new proposals for discussion at the EU-India Summit on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009. At the time of writing, the Summit has not yet taken place. If the objective is achieved, however, it will be a key step forward in realising AGCC's

objectives. Visits to both India and the EU followed the meeting in London and a full report was drafted, in order to consolidate support.

An application has also been made to the Secretariat of COP 15 in order to organise a side event in Copenhagen.

### **The Dialogue's achievements**



Three high-level meetings were organised in which more than 100 people took part, an extensive network both in India and the European Union (the European Institutions and member states) has been created, more than 20 research papers and a full report presenting key concrete proposals to strengthen India-EU cooperation have been produced.

The High-Level India-EU Dialogue has become the only track two process between the European Union and India dealing with climate and clean development. A track 2 process has been proved to be essential as a background that can help formal discussion and the negotiating process.

The High-Level India-EU Dialogue has proved its importance both in terms of producing key proposals, and for the informal, free, flowing, private discussion structure that it has been providing.

## **Africa**

AGCC's work in Africa has been coordinated by David Stephen, formerly the United Nations Special Representative for Somalia and Guinea Bissau and now AGCC Chairman.

Africa is already suffering disproportionately from climate change, compared to other continents, and yet lacks a coherent voice in the current international climate negotiations. AGCC has therefore worked to support those seeking to increase awareness, both in Africa and elsewhere, of Africa's situation, advocating appropriate changes in international climate governance systems.

AGCC has worked with, and through, coalitions of NGOs in West and East Africa. They in turn have worked to sensitise members of civil society, including (among others) local elected political leaders, members of legislatures and religious leaders, to the issues of global warming and climate change through a variety of approaches including seminars and meetings. The lack of finance has been a huge drawback. Small grants from aid agencies and from diplomatic missions, along with subsidies from AGCC itself, have allowed some useful functions and seminars to take place, but much, much more could be done.

At the same time, AGCC has built up a network of contacts, including civil servants and NGO representatives, both in individual African countries and in the intergovernmental

bodies. There is evidence that the work is bearing fruit as African governments and intergovernmental bodies are extending the scope of their work on climate change. The African Union (advised by one of AGCC's close collaborators, Joshua Wairoto, former Deputy Head of the Meteorological Office of Kenya) is now taking climate change seriously. In the sub-regions, the issue is being taken up: for example, in October 2008 the ministerial meeting in Cotonou of ECOWAS (the Economic Community of West African States) devoted an entire session to climate change. AGCC was invited to attend this meeting, at which it was represented by Raphael Hanmbock Songo of the African Network for a Climate Community (ANCC) which he founded after an AGCC backed conference in Cameroun. AGCC was the only international NGO invited by the Government of Nigeria to address a meeting of climate negotiators from African countries in Abuja last year, held under the auspices of UNEP and UNFCCC. AGCC also attended, as an observer, the UN Climate talks in Accra in August 2008 and worked with its regional collaborators to organise a side meeting on the theme "Climate Policy and Governance towards 2012: African Lawmakers and Civil Society Voices."

AGCC aims to continue to strengthen the NGOs with which it works and, in particular, to assist them in their educational work, for example with legislators, with a view to ensuring that, in the post-Kyoto process, a legitimate voice is given to African countries, drawing on the experience of those already affected by climate change. AGCC is planning, with its African partners, an African Civil Society Consultation on Climate Change. This would bring together political leaders and technical experts from a number of African countries and Europe to discuss the issues, raising in particular the issue of a "voice for victims" of climate change in the emerging new governance system.

AGCC is encouraging countries such as India to take more interest in Africa and possibly even to champion African issues. Eventually, AGCC hopes to see the formation of new groupings of states (including some African states) prepared - as a Community of the Willing - to pioneer new approaches on the international stage. In addition, a great deal of educational work could, were adequate funding available, be undertaken to alert public opinion in Europe to the effects of climate change on African countries.

## **Europe**

A number of individual and group meetings were held with officials, parliamentarians and others from the European Commission and EU Member States.

Regular contact was maintained with the office of the President of the European Commission and with the Environment, External Relations, Energy and Research Directorates-General. Contacts were also maintained with a number of European parliamentarians, most specifically, Satu Hassi MEP, Jo Leinen MEP, Anders Wijkman MEP, Andrew Duff MEP, Neena Gill MEP and Caroline Lucas MEP so that the European Parliament was kept abreast of AGCC's activities.

Links have been forged with the British, French, German and Swedish governments.

## Fundraising

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AGCC has achieved a remarkable amount with a small budget. Core funding has come primarily from two UK based foundations – The James Madison Charitable Trust and the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and from a committed private donor. Generous funding support for the Potsdam seminar, the Delhi seminar and the London meeting was received from The Heinrich Böll Foundation, GTZ, the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and Oak Foundation. Funding is currently being sought to finance more activities in Africa and a wider donor base is being sought to build on recent achievements, with a target of £300,000 for 2009-10.

## Charitable status

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AGCC was granted charitable status in spring 2009. The charity number is 1129940.

## Challenges for 2010

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The immediate challenge for AGCC's activities with India is to have an impact on the outcomes of the next EU-India Summit to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and to get the conclusions of the High-Level India-EU Dialogue report into its agenda for discussion. The longer term challenge is to maintain the Dialogue, whatever the outcomes of this Summit and of the international negotiations in Copenhagen. Its benefits have been valued by participants from both India and the European Union as a unique and dynamic process.

AGCC's challenge in Africa is to build and develop further its work with the African civil society community and governments and raise more funds to expand its activities on the continent.

Additionally, AGCC is developing a communications strategy that will make its ideas and programmes more widely known to the media and civil society. The organisation's main strength is its ability to facilitate discussions between decision makers throughout the world, most especially India, Africa and Europe.

## Staffing and Management

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**Action for a Global Climate Community** is a non-governmental organisation founded in 2003, following an international conference on global warming at Wilton Park, United Kingdom. It has been a charity since spring 2009.

**Board Members and Associates:** David Stephen (Chairman), Titus Alexander, Ritu Kumar, Christopher Layton (former Chairman), John Pinder OBE, Mark Runacres, Tom Spencer (until July 2009), Robert Whitfield.

**Honorary Consultant:** Andrew Dlugolewski

**Staff:** CEO: Peter Luff; Programme Officer & Research Assistant: Estelle Rouhaud; Programme & Research Assistant: Becky Luff; Financial Manager and Company Secretary: Viv Collett.

### **Patrons:**

**Grace Akumu**, Director of Climate Network Africa; **Ambassador Chandrashekhar Dasgupta**, former Indian Ambassador to China and the EU and presently a Distinguished Fellow at TERI; **Nitin Desai**, Co-Chairman, UK-India Round Table and former UN Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs; **Ambassador Raúl Estrada-Oyuela**, Chairman of the First Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; **Fabio Feldman**, former Brazilian Member of Parliament, an environmentalist, consultant, and Executive Secretary on the Paulista Forum on Climate Change and Biodiversity; **Sir John Houghton**, former Chairman of the Scientific Assessment Working Group of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change; **Professor Margaret Kamar**, Vice Chancellor University of Nairobi and former Chair of the East African Legislative Assembly Environment Committee; Hon'ble **Suresh Prabhu**, former Indian Member of Parliament and Environment and Energy Minister; **Professor John Schellnhuber CBE**, Director of the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research; and **Sir Crispin Tickell**, former Ambassador and Director of the Policy Foresight Programme at the James Martin Institute for Science and Civilization; **Dr Klaus Töpfer**, former Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, former German Federal Minister for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Energy.

Full accounts have been drawn up and submitted to Companies House by Hatch Chartered Accountants, Stratford-upon-Avon.

### **Contact details:**

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*\* Work in India had benefited enormously from the support of Dr Tushar Moulik, formerly Chairman of the Environment Resources Management Institute (ERM) who sadly died in 2008 and will be greatly missed.*